**El Shaddi is the God I Serve**

If you were wondering, I haven’t gone off the deep end and become part of some bizarre cult. When Jehovah God introduced Himself to Abram, He said, “I am God Almighty” (El Shaddi in Hebrew), “Walk before me faithfully and be blameless” (Genesis 17:1). There are some powerful implications to God’s claim of the name “Almighty”.

Jehovah was not simply saying He was mighty, which is certainly true. He was informing Abram that He is *Almighty*. He told Isaiah, “Remember the former things long past, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things which have not been done, saying, ‘My purpose will be established, and I will accomplish all My good pleasure” (Isaiah 46:9-10). “I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides Me there is no God. I will gird you, though you have not known Me; that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that there is no one besides Me. I am the LORD, and there is no other, the One forming light and creating darkness, causing well-being and creating calamity; I am the LORD who does all these” (Isaiah 45:5-7).

The apostle Paul wrote, “Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable His judgments, and His paths beyond tracing out! Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been His counselor? Who has ever given to God, that God should repay them? For from Him and through Him and for Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever! Amen” (Romans 11:33-36).

Some nice young men in white shirts and nametags calling them elders may knock on your door and claim that they worship God, but they do not worship God Almighty. The god they preach was supposedly once a man on the planet Kolob who achieved divinity, one who possesses flesh and blood like ours and who has, along with his wife, populated this planet. They believe that, in the past, this universe was fashioned from eternal matter by a council of gods. In other words, the being they serve is somewhat impressive, but not Almighty.

I love all my neighbors and would never question their sincerity or their devotion to their beliefs, but that doesn’t mean that false doctrine should go unchallenged. Any flesh-and-blood being who must confer with many others like himself in order to accomplish the will of a council is not the Almighty God of Scripture. We all will one day stand before the throne of God Almighty and give account for our faith and our lives. Each of us must be diligent to prepare for that day.

**John McKee**

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